



Conference Agenda Day 2

Wednesday Nov. 10th 9:00AM - 1:00PM

9:00 - Welcome and order of the day

9:10 - Workshop Session 3 (1 Hour)

- **Creating a sustainable, resilient, and prosperous economy in the NJ Highlands**

Maryjude Haddock-Weiler (NJ Highlands Council) & Alexandra Tranmer (Camoin Associates)

Creating a sustainable, resilient, and prosperous economy for the people and businesses in the New Jersey Highlands Region has never been more important. To achieve this lofty goal, the New Jersey Highlands Council began the process of developing an Economic Sustainability Plan in 2020 with Camoin Associates. Incorporating different levels of community engagement, business outreach and data analytics, the Economic Sustainability Plan not only sets the course for what to achieve, but how it will be achieved. Camoin Associates and the New Jersey Highlands Council team up to discuss major findings and goals for the execution of the plan.

- **Tools for Stormwater Management in Hammonton, NJ**

Jennifer Coffey (ANJEC) & Dan Bachalis (Chair of Hammonton Environmental Commission)

With record flooding across the state of New Jersey, it's more important now than ever that our economy and our infrastructure are resilient to climate change. Come join Jennifer Coffey, executive director of ANJEC (Assoc. of NJ Environmental Commissions) and Dan Bachalis, Chair of Hammonton Environmental Commission, to discuss tools that local officials can use to address pollution and flooding.

10:10 - Visit Virtual Expo & Networking

10:20 - Workshop Session 4 (1 Hour)

- **Discovering Opportunities for Recreation in Northwest New Jersey's Great Waters**

Alan Hunt (Musconetcong Watershed Association) & Emily Baldauff (Trout Unlimited)

The New Jersey Highlands region is a paradise for those who live and recreate here. Boasting nearly a million acres of unspoiled forest and some of the cleanest and most beautiful waterways in the Mid-Atlantic, the Highlands have attracted generations of

nature-loving families. While much has been done to preserve and protect this landscape, there are gaps in water quality protections and local zoning that leave important places and uses, like drinking water, vulnerable to poorly planned development. As part of its Great Waters NJ campaign, partners from the Musconetcong Watershed Association, the Association of NJ Environmental Commissions, Trout Unlimited, the NJ Highlands Coalition, The Watershed Institute, and the Delaware River Greenway Partnership are working to build public support to close gaps in water protections at the NJ Department of Environmental Protection that leave recreational waters in this region vulnerable. In this workshop our presenters will cover each of the named “Great Waters” and what you can do to become an advocate for clean water.

- **Sustainable Local Economic Development: Creating economic growth that respects community heritage and the environment.**

Joe Getz (JGSC Group)

- **The Value of Floodplain Restoration at the Local Level**

Dr Emily Pindilli (Science and Decisions Center, U.S. Geological Survey)

Dr. Emily Pindilli will describe ongoing research on ecosystem services provided by floodplains in the Chesapeake Bay and Delaware River watersheds being investigated by an interdisciplinary team of scientists. Analyses on the benefits of nutrient retention provided by floodplains monetized using a wastewater treatment costs avoided approach coupled with field and LiDAR data estimate the value of this ecosystem service at the local level. A pilot study to estimate the value of existing floodplains in flood attenuation and property damages avoided will also be described. Emily will discuss how the results of the floodplain analyses can inform conservation and restoration decisions and be considered as co-benefits of restoration activities at the local level.

11:20 - Visit Virtual Expo & Networking

11:30 - Keynote Presentation:

Smart Growth in the Highlands: Where Equity and Economy Fit In

Peter Kasabach (New Jersey Future)

The Highlands region of New Jersey is an environmental jewel actively being preserved and protected. It is also home to hundreds of thousands of people that make up the communities and businesses that exist here. How can we grow the economy and build a more socially equitable region while still protecting the natural resources and systems that we depend on.

12:30 - Closing Remarks

The Virtual Expo & Networking will remain open from the conference opening through to its close at 1PM November 10th